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COAST GUIDE: GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON PUBLIC PLACES ON THE MA SHORE *New State Publication Includes 400 Shoreline Sites from Salisbury to Hingham*

The newly-released *Massachusetts Coast Guide to Boston & the North Shore* provides 22 color maps and descriptions of nearly 400 shoreline sites open to the public. Covering the coast from Salisbury to Hingham, the guide features not only the spectacular parks and conservation areas found on major road maps, such as the Parker River Wildlife Refuge and Revere Beach, but smaller, little-known treasures, like the public lanes and landings along Marblehead Neck and the Rockport shore. Developed by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) within the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, this publication is now available to the public.

"The coast is one of the great treasures of the Bay State," said Massachusetts Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Roy Herzfelder. "With the *Coast Guide* we are providing citizens and visitors with an insider's 'road map' so that they can explore all that our shoreline has to offer—from sandy beaches to rocky shores, bustling ports to quiet coves, extensive tide flats to marshy inlets, and shoreline playgrounds to secluded islands."

"Few people realize that almost 40 percent of the shoreline from Salisbury to Hingham is open to the public," said CZM Director Susan Snow-Cotter. "We developed the *Coast Guide* to help make the coast truly approachable by identifying all these public access spots, large and small, and sharing this information with people who love to get to the coast."

The *Massachusetts Coast Guide to Boston and the North Shore* includes nearly 400 coastal access points and properties that are owned by government agencies or major land conservation organizations. The *Coast Guide's* 22 color maps show these sites and clearly mark the local roads to find them. Accompanying pages provide brief site descriptions, selected photos, and information on facilities, fees, parking, and public transportation. The simple and practical spiral-bound design lies flat on any surface, and is small enough to fit in a backpack or glove compartment.

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The *Coast Guide* is available for \$6.00 (to cover printing, shipping, and handling costs). For details and an order form, please visit: www.mass.gov/czm/coastguide/index.htm.

To order directly, send a check or money order made out to Urban Harbors Institute to: Coast Guide, UMass-Boston - Urban Harbors Institute, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125-3393. Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

To cover the rest of the Massachusetts coast, CZM has begun collecting information on coastal access sites on the South Shore, Cape Cod, Buzzard's Bay, and Mount Hope Bay for future volumes of the *Coast Guide*. CZM has also recently hired a GIS Specialist to collect this data and work with MassGIS to develop an on-line coastal access mapping service.

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